

Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee Minutes
(Unofficial until approved)
North Dakota Association of Counties Conference Room
Video Network Conferencing
March 13, 2015

Members Present:

Hon. Lisa Fair McEvers, Chair
Hon. Thomas Merrick
Hon. Todd Cresap
Hon. Steven McCullough
Hon. Donovan Foughty
Hon. Lolita Romanick
Referee John Grinsteiner
Valerie Potter
Brett Anderson
Shawn Peterson
Steve Mottinger

Members Absent:

Senator Larry Robinson
Harlan Johnson
Dawn Deitz
Lisa Nihill

Guests:

Hon. Richard Hagar
Nicole Burkhartsmeier
Sean Anderson
Scott Hopwood
Jason Anderson
Sara Ellenwood
Brian Washburn
Kristi Wieland
Mikayla Jablonski Jahner
Jeremy Ward
Scott Hopwood
Cory Pederson
Troy Lefevre
Kimber Hasbargen
Curt Brown
Karen Kringlie
Jody Bass
Ruth Jenny
Sara Quirk

Staff:

Marilyn Moe

The Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee met through videoconferencing on March 13, 2015, at the North Dakota Association of Counties conference room. Justice Lisa McEvers called the meeting to order. **John Grinsteiner moved to approve the minutes of September 14, 2014. Brett Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

New Business:

Committee member, Melody Peterson, has submitted her resignation on the JDC Advisory Committee to Chief Justice VandeWalle. Sara Nicoli-Christensen has agreed to fill that position. Sara's term began on January 1, 2015. The term is three years.

Team Reports -

Valerie Potter, coordinator, reported for the Minot Juvenile Drug Court team. Minot currently has six participants in the program. There was one graduation and two terminations during this reporting period. The Minot team attended the state-wide training in Fargo on Implementing the 16 Strategies for Juvenile Drug Court. The participants and team members provided community service for the Salvation Army, the Community Cookie Drive, and the Bowls for Babies Event. The Ward County Drug Task Force gave a presentation to the parents of juvenile drug court participants, school officials and community members. Minot Juvenile Drug Court reached their eight year anniversary in January.

Cindy Halvorson, coordinator, reported for the Devils Lake Juvenile Drug Court team. Devils Lake currently has three participants. There were five terminations, two suspensions, and no graduations during this reporting period. Judge Donovan Foughty asked the committee for advice on issues that the team is addressing related to gang mentality. Nicole Burkhardtmeier, of the Fargo team, stated that they handle gang mentality issues on a case-by-case. They have had gang members as juvenile drug court participants and engaged the participants in positive pro-social behaviors. Marilyn Moe stated she would contact the National Drug Court Institute for assistance on ways to motivate and work with these individuals.

Tausha Pfenning reported for the Bismarck Juvenile Drug Court team. Bismarck currently has five participants in the program. There was one termination and two graduations during this reporting period. The participants and team members participated in the Red Ribbon Carnival, Santa Run, Taco Night at Carrie's Kids, and the Banquet at the Trinity Lutheran Church. The South Central Juvenile Drug Court has developed a new incentive program. The goal is to cover all areas of the participant's program; negative screens, no curfew violations, no MEMS violations, parents attending court, and attend all weekly appointments. The participants will earn points through the program and are eligible to earn incentives for reaching different levels.

Kristi Wieland reported for the Stutsman-Barnes County Juvenile Drug Court team. Stutsman-Barnes County currently has three participants in the program. There were three

terminations and one graduation during this reporting period. The team's first graduation was held on March 11, 2015. The graduate was presented a certificate from Judge Thomas Merrick and a plaque from Justice Lisa McEvers. The team thanked Justice McEvers, Scott Johnson, and Marilyn Moe for attending. The participants did various community activities during this reporting period and attended a hockey game.

Nicole Burkhardtmeier reported for the Fargo Juvenile Drug Court team. Fargo currently has five participants in the program. There were three graduations and seven terminations since the last reporting period. The participants were involved in activities with YWCA, Churches United, and the Salvation Army. The team has restructured their Path advancements including imposing 20 hours of community service later on in the program. Participants who are in Path 3 come to drug court every three weeks or as ordered by the judge and are granted open campus for lunch at the Fargo schools. Alyssa Olson has been hired as the new Juvenile Drug Court coordinator.

Sara Ellenwood reported for the Grand Forks Juvenile Drug Court team. Grand Forks currently has five participants in the program. There were no graduations and four terminations during this reporting period. Judge Loita Romanick is the new Juvenile Drug Court judge and Referee Jay Knudson is the backup judge. Jody Bass is the new state's attorney assigned to the Grand Forks Juvenile Drug Court. The participants were involved in Sox for Kids, Women's Pregnancy Center, helping at the YMCA and volunteering at the Stable Days Youth Ranch.

Legislative Updates - Senator Larry Robinson could not attend the meeting because of legislative committee hearings at the capitol. Marilyn Moe reported that SB 2161, relating to the establishment of an interdisciplinary committee on problem solving courts, was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee and a hearing was held on March 11, 2015. The committee has not made a decision on the bill.

2014 Statistics - Marilyn Moe informed the committee that the number of participants increased in 2014. Justice McEvers asked Marilyn Moe to run some comparisons and percentages on the graduations and terminations in regards to minorities in the program. Marilyn Moe stated that the statistics showed that there needs to be improvements in helping minorities complete the program. The comparisons show that a large number of minorities are terminated from the Juvenile Drug Court Program.

Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee change in meeting times - Justice McEvers asked whether the Juvenile Drug Court Advisory Committee should meet twice a year instead of quarterly. Valerie Potter stated that she was in approval and if there was an issue that needed to be addressed before a scheduled meeting, the committee could call a meeting. All members and teams were in approval.

Old Business:

N.D.R. Juv.P.#18 - Marilyn Moe informed the committee that N.D.R.Juv.P.#18, the new rule created to consolidate provisions previously contained in the judicial system policy manual relating to juvenile dispositions, restitutions, and conditions, has been sent to the Court and is currently out for comment until March 31, 2015.

Case-Aide Report - Brian Washburn, Juvenile Court Supervisor in Jamestown, has hired three

case aides to provide drug testing and curfew checks. Brian is in the process of hiring new case-aides because the current case aides are college graduates and will be moving onto full-time employment.

Upper Midwest Drug Court Conference - Marilyn Moe reminded the committee that the Upper Midwest Drug Court Conference will be held September 30th through October 2nd, at the Cambria Conference Center in West Fargo.

Next Meeting Date: September 30, 2015, Cambria Convention Center, West Fargo

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Moe